

DECEMBER • 1946

The INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER



Official Magazine

THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS • CHAUFFEURS • WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS OF AMERICA

Now It's Up to Congress

HOW GOOD, or how bad, the new Congress will be we shall soon discover. It can steer us clear of the whirlpools of depression or it can plunge us right into them. It all depends on how intelligent the new members are and how patriotic.

We are heartened by the success of such level headed men as Gov. Thye of Minnesota, Gov. Martin of Pennsylvania and Senator Kilgore of West Virginia. The Teamsters in those states supported them for election to the Senate. Thye and Martin are Republicans; Kilgore a Democrat. We believe they will give honest public service, untainted by political bias.

Many members of the Teamsters' Union supported Gov. Dewey for reelection in New York. As a whole they backed Gov. Warren in California. Both won overwhelmingly, thereby becoming eligible for the Republican presidential nomination in 1948.

Massachusetts Teamsters were behind Gov. Tobin, seeking reelection. We regret he was defeated but we have no regret for having supported him. He was entitled to all the help we could give him. We are sorry it was not enough.

In Washington state the Teamsters lost with Senator Mitchell, a great man for labor. He was defeated by an able young war veteran, former Mayor Harry Cain of Tacoma. Cain is a man of great ability and personal integrity. He is not a Republican of the Taft-Bricker variety.

Cain should rank with Senator Morse of Oregon as an independent thinker unafraid to differ with the reactionaries who gave us the last big depression and are looking forward to another.

For the first time in many years, the Teamsters did not go down the line for the Democratic party and its candidates. Too many of those candidates were captives of the CIO and its discredited PAC. They were not for labor; they were for one faction of labor—the extreme left wing. So we repudiated them.

We believe the Teamsters' Union will receive fairer treatment from men like Thye and Martin than from shifty stooges of the PAC.

The election proved conclusively what we have long known. The PAC was greatly overrated. It succeeded only when labor generally supported its candidates, as the Teamsters did, until the candidates became so brazenly partisan that we were forced to part company with them. Left to themselves, they fizzled out like wet firecrackers.

We hope that the new Congress will discharge its responsibilities honestly and capably. If it does, we have nothing to fear. The nation will prosper and labor will prosper with it. If it fails—but let's not look at that side of the picture yet. It's too grewsome.

To the winners, we say—"Congratulations!" The Teamsters' Union will abide by the election results with high hopes. The Teamsters' Union is not owned or controlled by any political party. It never was; it never will be. Its first consideration is the Teamsters.

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**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
CHAUFFEURS . . . WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS**

Vol. XLIV

DECEMBER, 1946

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Thomas E. Flynn, Assistant Editor

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A Triumph for Truth and Justice

A Federal Court Jury in Washington, D. C., Writes a True Verdict in the "Battle of the Statler" Case

By DANIEL J. TOBIN

THE famous "Battle of the Statler" has resulted in a brilliant triumph for truth and justice.

On October 31 a jury of four women and eight men, sitting in the Federal District Court for the District of Columbia, returned a verdict for the defendants—our International Brotherhood, its President and the Editor of its official journal, Daniel J. Tobin.

The importance of this victory cannot be overemphasized. The readers of this journal will doubtless recall how this affair began and how it was inflated by an antilabor, anti-Roosevelt press way beyond all reasonable proportions in a crude effort to blacken the name of the Teamsters and thereby to seek the defeat of President Roosevelt in 1944.

It all began on the night of September 23, 1944, when President Roosevelt opened his campaign at a dinner given by the Teamsters at the Statler Hotel in Washington, D. C.

Some time after the dinner was over and President Roosevelt, as well as President Tobin and others, had left the banquet hall, a small fracas developed between two young naval officers and various Teamster representatives, most of whom were from Boston. Ordinarily, nothing would have been said by anyone about this scuffle. In fact, although there were many reporters in attendance at the dinner, nothing was mentioned in the public press about it for a period of over one week.

But this was not an ordinary occasion. It was a most important occasion because it marked the opening of President Roosevelt's campaign and it emphasized the strong bonds between that great statesman and organized labor.

It happened that one of the young naval officers involved was the son of a Washington newspaper official. Eight days after the banquet, on Sunday, October 1, the *Wash-*

ington Times Herald, which was notoriously anti-Roosevelt and anti-new deal, published a fantastic story charging that two naval officers had been beaten up by a group of Teamsters and that they in turn had beaten up a close friend of President Roosevelt.

The very next day, October 2, one of the naval officers, a Lieut. Dickins, voluntarily gave a press interview wherein he presented his one-sided and distorted version of the events of September 23.

He made it appear that he and his friend were the victims of a cowardly assault by a group of Teamsters who, according to his story, for no reason other than that these officers refused to announce their support for Roosevelt, attacked them in large numbers and beat them up.

A malicious and hostile press seized upon this story, then built and improved upon it to satisfy their taste for sensationalism and their political objectives and spread it throughout the world.

Without hesitating one second to check on the truth of the story given by Lieut. Dickins, without making the slightest effort to get the other side of the story, they embarked upon an intensive campaign to defame the Teamsters' Union and President Roosevelt.

The naval officers were portrayed as heroic figures and were gratuitously given military awards and active battle stars which they had never actually received.

On the other hand, the Teamsters' Union, thousands of whom were themselves fighting on the battle line and thousands of whom who had sons and brothers in the services, were viciously attacked as reckless and irresponsible citizens who had no respect for the uniform of the United States Navy.

Seldom if ever had there been such a dirty and malicious political campaign and such

a widespread assault on a large group of upstanding, patriotic American citizens.

Between October 2 and November 7, the date of the election, substantially more than 10,000 newspaper stories, editorials, and cartoons all glorifying the young officers and all besmirching the good name of the Teamsters, were published.

As your president, I felt it my bounden duty to get the facts as best I could and to refute this ugly and infamous attack. These facts were obtained in the form of sworn affidavits on the part of eye witnesses to the fracas at the hotel on September 23, and all these affidavits were submitted to the Senate Committee on Elections which was conducting an inquiry into this affair.

I publicly urged a full investigation so that the truth be made known. I stated that if in fact any Teamster had conducted himself in the manner charged by Lieut. Dickins in his interview, then such a Teamster did not deserve to continue in membership, since he had violated the constitution of the International.

These affidavits presented an entirely different story from that given by Lieut. Dickins. They showed that these young officers were apparently under the influence of liquor and were plainly looking for trouble.

They approached several persons leaving the banquet, ridiculed the fact that they were members of a union, and used profane and vulgar language towards the President of the United States.

We had affidavits from two most respected women residents of Washington, D. C., who swore that one of the officers grabbed one of the women by the arm and demanded to know whether she was for Roosevelt.

From all these affidavits (there were 20 or more) it was apparent that far from attacking the young officers without provocation, the delegates who were so molested by them exercised remarkable restraint and patience, showing complete deference to the uniforms which they wore.

After the Senate committee decided that there was nothing to the so-called "Battle of the Statler" and, therefore, decided not to institute a more formal investigation, the two young officers, through their attorney,

released to the press the affidavits they had submitted to the Senate committee. This occurred on October 18 and gave further stimulus to the already full-grown campaign against President Roosevelt and the Brotherhood of Teamsters.

In order to give the facts and protect our good name, and without any ill-will or malice against the two officers whom we regarded as young and misguided victims of sinister political forces and by way of reply to the unprincipled and lying attacks upon our membership, I published a number of affidavits we had acquired in the November issue of *THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER*.

This was the first statement publicly issued by the Teamsters giving our version of what actually happened, and basing it on the sworn affidavits that had been previously presented to the Senate committee.

Almost immediately after the publication of those affidavits, the two officers, through their attorney, filed suit for \$400,000, each claiming \$200,000 damages on the alleged ground that the affidavits were libelous.

I welcomed this opportunity to have a fair and full public hearing to determine the true events. Accordingly, I instructed our general counsel, Joseph A. Padway, with whom was associated Mr. Elisha Hanson, a well known Washington attorney, to consider no possible offers of settlement no matter how reasonable they might appear to be.

I knew that the litigation would prove expensive but the good name of our International, its officers, the delegates to the Washington conference, and those who were particularly accused had to be defended and vindicated. Accordingly, I instructed them to try the case before a jury on its merits.

After many delays and postponements characteristic to lawsuits of this kind, the case finally went to trial on October 21, 1946. However, just before the trial began, one of the officers, Lieut. Comdr. Suddeth, abandoned his case and declined to go further with it.

The other officer, Lieut. Dickins, persisted in prosecuting his case. The trial lasted almost two weeks. We brought in eye witnesses from all over the country, most of whom had previously given affidavits and

they told their stories to the jury in their own way.

Many of those who testified were not members of our union, such as Mrs. Helen Roland, Mrs. Frank Lee, Mr. Lauden, who was labor consultant to the Republican National Committee, and Mr. Lawrence, who is head of the American Trucking Association.

Our major defenses were that everything we had said was true and that we had a complete right to reply to the defamatory attacks upon us. After a few hours of delib-

eration, the jury returned a unanimous verdict in our favor, thereby completely vindicating our position and giving the lie to the vicious propaganda that had been hurled against us.

The newspapers report that the plaintiff intends to appeal to a higher court, and in the meantime his attorney has moved for a new trial. Our general counsel, Judge Padway, and associate counsel, Elisha Hanson, advise that the plaintiff has no chance at all of reversing this unanimous verdict of the jury.

Prices Soar as Controls are Removed

Free enterprise returned to America with a resounding bang November 12 after President Truman removed controls on everything but rents, sugar and rice, and OPA fired the first of 22,000 workers.

Soap manufacturers, operating in a market without OPA, promptly tagged boosts of from 50 to 70 per cent on wholesale prices of their scarce commodity and indicated the luckless consumer would be expected to foot the bill.

General Motors came through with a \$100 per car increase for all its models, but, strangely enough, the Ford Motor Company announced it did not contemplate any increases in the prices of cars or trucks.

The International Harvester Company, which claimed to have had only one 10 per cent price increase since 1941, ordered a 9 per cent boost in its farm implements, effective immediately.

Vice-President Walter McKee of Lever Brothers announced a 50 per cent increase in wholesale prices for his firm's products, including Lifebuoy soap.

At Cincinnati, officials of Proctor & Gamble (Ivory, etc.) said the increases would run between 50 and 70 per cent wholesale, and a small bar of Ivory, formerly selling at 7 cents, would retail now for 10 cents. Packaged soap powders for laundry use, formerly selling around 23 cents retail, are expected to be tagged at 35 cents.

In New York City, carpet manufacturers studied raising their price levels between 5 and 10 per cent. The doubt here centered

on whether the public would go along, since carpet prices are considerably above prewar levels now.

Copper, lead and zinc prices joined the move to higher levels, with copper jumping from 13½ to 17½ cents a pound as the Civilian Production Administration warned that the boosts would be taken from the federal subsidy given producers.

Steel scrap, an important industrial item, rose \$2.50 per ton across the board at Chicago, and the Geneva Steel Company, a U. S. Steel subsidiary at Geneva, Utah, announced structural steel prices in all shapes had advanced slightly over \$2.52 per 100 pounds in carload lots. Bethlehem Steel, however, expressed hope it could avoid increases.

The OPA, which still controls rice, rents and sugar, showed signs of letting the bars down on all but sugar.

In addition to General Motors, Crosley Motors, Inc., at Cincinnati, announced a \$100 increase in its midget models, while Westinghouse Electric contented itself with a prediction of "very modest increases" in retail costs of appliances.

Ford, while realizing "that many serious inequalities existed in former OPA prices on repair parts," and that there is plenty of "justification for our raising prices at this time," said "we feel that it is vitally necessary, during this period of adjustment, that all industry cooperate to avoid precipitous or unjustified increases in prices."

—*Federated Press.*

Teamsters of 6 States Hit CIO

300 Business Agents Meet in Pittsburgh to Aid Local 232

MORE than 300 business agents representing all the Teamster unions in Pennsylvania and other locals in five neighboring states met early last month to pledge their support to Local No. 232 of Pittsburgh, the target of intensive attack by the CIO.

Thomas E. Flynn, executive assistant to President Tobin, flew into Pittsburgh on President Tobin's instructions to address the meeting and to inform the Pennsylvania Teamsters that the International Union stands squarely behind them in their struggle.

Also attending the meeting was John O'Neal of Philadelphia, president of the Pennsylvania Commercial Drivers' Conference, which also includes Teamster locals in West Virginia, Maryland, Ohio, New Jersey and Delaware.

O'Neal announced that the commercial drivers were in unanimous agreement with the rest of the Pennsylvania locals, thereby throwing the influence of Teamsters from six states behind Local No. 232.

Lee W. Minton of Philadelphia, president of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association, attended the meeting with O'Neal and declared that his union, which makes all the bottles for the brewing and distilling industries, was actively in the fight and would shut off all bottles to unfair Pittsburgh breweries allied with the CIO to put Local No. 232 out of business.

Minton was warmly applauded by the business agents.

So was Flynn, in a fighting speech, which threw down the gauntlet to the CIO. His remarks follow:

We have reached a situation where the existence not only of the Teamsters Union but that of the American Federation of Labor is challenged. We have only two alternatives—to fight or surrender. I need not tell this group what the decision of the International Union is, and I need not ask you what yours is. We will fight!

It was through meeting the challenge of our enemies, inside and outside of labor, that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters became the largest labor union in the world, and the members of that union are receiving the highest wage scales and the best working conditions that we can obtain for them. Outside of a few highly skilled and specialized crafts, the Teamsters have obtained the best wage scales in the country.

That is why we have grown. That is why so many men want to join the Teamsters' Union in preference to other unions promoted by employers and by the CIO. The wage scales obtained by the Teamsters for brewery workers are uniformly higher than

those secured by the Brewery Workers inside or outside the CIO.

Because of that, Brewery Worker locals all over the country are petitioning to join the Teamsters. We are accepting them. The CIO is desperately trying to hold their members in line by coercion and intimidation.

That is what the fight here in Pittsburgh is all about. A local of the Brewery Workers, by a vote of 433 to 52, decided to join the Teamsters on September 29. We issued them a charter. The CIO, which clamors so loudly for "democratic procedure," refused to accept this overwhelming sentiment of the members in exercising democratic procedure.

By collusion with the employers, they tried to browbeat the members of our union into withdrawing under threat of losing their jobs.

Then, when we retaliated by putting pickets at the breweries, this great "labor" organization began scabbing on deputy sheriffs and police. The CIO turned out hundreds of men to act as armed guards and

to assist police in running beer through our picket lines.

So here in Pittsburgh, the home of the CIO, we see to what extent the totalitarian philosophies of the CIO are practiced. The history of organized labor shows no more degrading spectacle than CIO union men working as armed guards with the Pittsburgh police in running the picket line of a bona fide labor organization. Is this the way the CIO proposes to elevate the wages and conditions of American labor?

This is no isolated example of CIO tactics. It shows what is going on throughout the country as the CIO desperately attempts by every method possible to raid the jurisdiction and take over the membership of the AFL.

If we let this pass unchallenged in Pittsburgh, we will soon find ourselves facing the same fight everywhere else in the United States. We do not propose to let it pass unchallenged in Pittsburgh. That is why I am here today and that is why you are here today.

I am here to tell you that the International Union will spare no effort to support you 100 per cent. You are here to map plans to push the brewery fight to a victory throughout the State of Pennsylvania.

This fight may spread beyond the State of Pennsylvania. We may have it on our hands in New York, Minnesota and several other states. Wherever the issue is raised we will meet it. We will meet it first in Pennsylvania. If we win it here, as we will, we will be well on our way to success in the other states.

How soon we win it depends largely on the determination and strategy which you employ in Pennsylvania.

We have here to assist you some of the best organizers in the International Union, men with courage and experience. I will

introduce them to you, even though most of them are known to you by reputation, if not personally.

We have Albert Dietrich, president of the Pittsburgh Joint Council, James Ruehl of Buffalo, Nicholas P. Morrissey of Boston and Edward F. Murphy of Cleveland, ably assisted by Joseph J. Quillin of Newark, and some others.

We feel that these men are all we need here but if we need more, you will have them; as many as you need, wherever you need them.

We must win this opening skirmish and as we win it we will prepare for the next skirmish.

The CIO picked this battleground. This is the city where the CIO was organized. It would be most appropriate if it should also become the city where it was disorganized.

Whenever necessary, the entire weight of the AFL on a national scale will be thrown behind us. We are confident that we can win without calling for reinforcements. But if we need them, they are ready and waiting.

Four times we have offered to settle this affair amicably and democratically by having an election of the men involved. Four times we have had our offers rejected by the CIO. We made those offers to avoid inconvenience and embarrassment to the public. Now that we are forced to fight, we will still do everything possible to avoid penalizing the public.

But in the long run, we believe that it will be in the public interest to have the working men of this country affiliated with unions that are strictly American and are untainted by any foreign philosophy of totalitarianism. The labor movement is the chief bulwark against dictatorship. That is why our enemies are making such a vicious fight to control it.

Organized labor was never afraid for the people to know the whole story of their troubles with management. In fact, that is the purpose of all labor publications. If the daily papers continue to give the news about strikes as they have been doing in the past, it will not be long until they will have as little influence with the public as they had when they tried to beat Roosevelt for President.

—International Molders' and Foundry Workers' Journal.

For 40 Years They Have Fought Us

Conflict with Brewery Workers Dates Back to 1906

THE dispute between the Brewery Workers' International Union and the Teamsters' Union is long standing. It is longer standing than most people realize. It dates back to 1906—40 years!

If it was still a personal controversy between the two unions it would not be a question of national importance. It has developed into a quarrel that challenges the jurisdiction of every union in the brewing and distilling industries and beyond that, the survival of the American Federation of Labor.

It is, therefore, as much the concern of the AFL as it is of the Teamsters.

In 1906 the Brewery Workers laid claim to the drivers of beer wagons. The Teamsters resisted the demand, claiming that these drivers were clearly within the jurisdiction of our charter as issued by the American Federation of Labor.

We appealed to the American Federation of Labor and we were sustained.

That should have settled the question, once and for all. But the officers of the Brewery Workers' International Union were then, and have always been, very stubborn men.

They refused to abide by the decision of labor's highest court and went on strike in New Orleans to compel our team drivers to join the Brewery Workers.

As a consequence of their rebellious attitude and defiant disregard of the decisions of the AFL, the Brewery Workers' International was suspended from the AFL in June, 1907.

Subsequently, they were readmitted on their promise to respect the rights of other unions in the AFL. This promise they never kept. Instead they kept the brewing industry in constant turmoil and harassed the American Federation of Labor with renewed claims for jurisdiction over Teamsters.

In 1933, the AFL executive council again listened to the Brewery Workers' claims and again rejected them. Still the Brewery Workers were not satisfied. They carried their case before the national AFL convention in Washington, D. C., in October, 1933. Again they lost. The convention approved the decision of the executive council in favor of the Teamsters by a vote of 13,872 to 5,859.

Once again, that should have settled the matter. But it did not. The Brewery Workers continued to ignore the decisions of the American Federation, affirmed and reaffirmed.

The case came again before the AFL at its national convention in San Francisco the following year. And once more the convention approved the action of its executive council and of its conventions of 1906 and 1933.

The Brewery Workers showed no appreciation to the American Federation of Labor for the extraordinary consideration they had received in spite of their repeated flouting of the authority of the federation and its decisions.

They continued to follow their raiding of Teamster jurisdiction and in 1937 the Brewery Workers were almost unanimously rebuked by a convention of the American Federation of Labor in Denver.

The rebuke followed the unprecedented act of the Brewery Workers in asking an injunction in Federal Court to set aside the 1933 decision of the AFL convention.

The executive council submitted a report to the 1937 convention in which it condemned the Brewery Workers in strong language for an action injurious to labor as a whole.

That report reads in part as follows:

"It is with regret and concern we report an unwarranted and unprecedented event in the annals of the American Federation of

Labor. It is an occurrence which involves not only one of our affiliated International unions, but embraces as well a procedure designed to seriously impair for all time allied and federated trade and labor unionism in America.

"The situation presented, if successful, is destined to bring the regulation and control of allied and federated trade and labor unionism, as symbolized by the American Federation of Labor for the past 50 years or more, definitely within the realm of the equity powers of our courts. We refer to the recent injunction proceedings instituted by the International Union of Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America."

Fortunately for the union men of America, the Brewery Workers were not successful in taking the control of labor out of the hands of labor's elected leaders and putting it into the courts.

But the Brewery Workers were not discouraged. They resorted to injunction proceedings in Minneapolis in 1941, this time against peaceful picketing. Imagine that, if you can—a labor union going into court to get an injunction against peaceful picketing!

This amazing action was directed against our Local No. 792, brewery and beverage drivers in Minneapolis. It was to stop members of this union from picketing taverns and advising customers that the products delivered by members of the Brewery Workers' Union was unfair.

Their products were unfair because the AFL, finally completely disgusted with the Brewery Workers, had expelled them at the convention in Seattle in 1941.

With the Brewery Workers again outside the protective realm of the AFL, the Teamsters were free to accept into their ranks the thousands of Brewery Workers who had also become disgusted with the antics of their union.

In February of 1942, with the war raging in Europe and the Orient and with thousands of our members serving on the battle-

fronts, we signed a truce with the Brewery Workers, preserving the status of both unions and deferring until the end of hostilities, all matters of dispute between them.

The Teamsters assented to the agreement in the hope of avoiding any jurisdictional conflicts that would interfere with the chief business of every American—winning the war.

The ink was hardly dry on the agreement before the officials of the Brewery Workers flouted it. The president of the union, who had been a party to the agreement, called a convention to ratify the agreement and then appeared before the convention to defeat the patriotic agreement which he had previously accepted. It was defeated by the convention on the president's advice. The Brewery Workers, even in the midst of a bloody, two-front war for survival, would not defer their feud against the Teamsters.

Since that time the Teamsters have made steady progress in organizing brewery and soft drink workers. The final desperate action of the Brewery Workers was to vote to affiliate with the CIO.

The results of the referendum vote were announced last July. It was a close vote of 22,900 to join the CIO and 19,241 opposing it.

That brings us up to the present. The Brewery Workers, after fighting the AFL for 40 years, are now determined to destroy it. They have enlisted in a dual organization which will help them to raid the Teamsters and turn the brewing industry over to the CIO.

That is where the AFL comes into the conflict.

It may be a hard fight. Already in some places the CIO is refusing to load trucks driven by Teamsters. We have been forced to retaliate by shutting off all deliveries to such places.

This is not a fight of our asking, or of our choosing. Neither will it be a fight of our dodging. We will meet it with all our strength. To do otherwise would be to surrender. And the Teamsters' Union is not going to surrender its jurisdiction of half a

century over the men whose wages and working conditions it has steadily improved during that time.

The Teamsters, therefore, have accepted the challenge of battle. We will fight on one front, or two fronts or a thousand fronts. We will maintain and enforce the jurisdic-

tion given us by the American Federation of Labor on so many occasions during the last 40 years.

No wilful little group of men in the Brewery Workers' Union is going to push us aside. Nor is any large group of tough characters in the CIO.

Two More Locals Report War Deaths

Two more local unions reported their war deaths last month. Secretary-Treasurer E. J. Robillard of Local No. 95, Kenosha, Wis., listed seven members from his union who gave their lives, while Secretary-Treasurer David Hastings of Local No. 340, Portland, Me., reported two deaths.

This brings the total war sacrifices reported by Teamster locals to 558.

The latest fatalities are:

LEO ZEROS, Local No. 95, member of the crew of a naval vessel sunk in the early days of the war.

ELROY, FETTIS, Local No. 95, died in service at a southern army camp following an operation.

WILTON ORR, Local No. 95, killed with the U. S. Army in the Battle of Attu.

STEVE BARNA, Local No. 95, killed in action with the army.

KENNETH RASCH, Local No. 95, killed in action with the army.

WILLIAM LARSON, Local No. 95, killed in action with the army.

JACK YULE, Local No. 95, died of injuries received in line of duty.

WILLIAM P. HOUSE, Local No. 340, killed in a motor collision in England.

RAYMOND F. BROWN, Local No. 340, killed in landing during the invasion of Europe.

Ball Reveals Antilabor Program

When the new Congress convenes next month, Senator Joseph Ball of Minnesota will be the top man in that body on all labor questions.

Ball reached Washington November 8 to prepare his program and announced that he has a double-barreled shot for American unions.

First off, Ball expects quick passage of the Case antilabor bill—the measure that was so bad President Truman vetoed it. Ball thinks he can get it through the Senate without the formality of holding hearings.

Following up on that, the Minnesota Republican proposes to ban the closed shop.

In an interview at his office, Ball described the Case bill as a relatively easy measure to pass, but pointed to the outlawing of the closed shop as the primary GOP objective. He wants to bar any form of agreement or contract in which membership

in a labor union would be prerequisite to employment.

Ball put it this way: "There have been a lot of bills talked about which would outlaw specific abuses of unions, but most of them just chip away at the edges. The main bulwark protecting unions in their abuse of power is the closed shop.

"If we abolish the closed shop," he explained smilingly, "other abuses within labor unions will be abolished by the rank and file or union members themselves."

Ball explained that he proposes to eliminate the clause in the Wagner Labor Relations Act sanctioning the closed shop and claimed that a majority in Congress believes "there has never been any justification for the closed shop. It is the most illiberal practice in the labor movement."

—*Federated Press.*

Since the death of OPA, the price of home-delivered milk has reached 20½ cents, the highest in the history of Chicago, according to The Chicago Sun.

Central States Contract is Signed

125,000 Teamsters Affected by Negotiations in Chicago

FIFTEEN days after negotiations started, an agreement covering the 25,000 over-the-road drivers in the twelve Central States and affecting 100,000 members of the Teamsters' Union as far west as Denver was signed in Chicago on November 20.

The agreement grants substantial wage increases to drivers and changes sections of the previous agreement to allow better policing of the operators of leased equipment, according to Arthur F. Hudson, Executive Secretary of the Central States Drivers' Council.

The new wage scales and other changes in the agreement were accepted by the drivers with unanimous approval. Among the changes is one specifying that it shall not be a violation of the contract for a driver to refuse to go through a picket line or to handle unfair merchandise.

This is of paramount importance to the Teamsters in view of the current obvious intention of many employers to break existing wage scales and destroy union agreements. This means real AFL picket lines, indorsed by the International Teamsters' office.

The negotiations were conducted between three organizations of employers and several independent operators on one side and by a committee of nine from the Teamsters' Union, representing the midwest section of the country.

The largest number of employers was represented by the Midwest Operators' Association, covering Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, the Dakotas and northwestern Wisconsin.

The operators of Illinois, Indiana and the rest of Wisconsin were represented by the Central States Area Employers' Association, while Michigan truckers were represented by the Labor Division of the Michigan Trucking Association.

Ohio was represented by individual employers; and the Santa Fe Trails Transportation Company, operating through the

Central States and as far west as Denver, appeared independently of the other groups, but all signed the same agreement.

The contract change covering leased equipment prevents an employer from selling his trucks to his drivers. It provides that he must maintain the equipment he operated at the time the agreement was signed.

The agreement runs until November 15, 1947.

James R. Hoffa of Detroit was chairman of the Teamsters' committee, which also included Brother Hudson, Vice-President Sidney L. Brennan of Minneapolis, Walter E. Biggs of South Bend, Indiana, Rudy Minkin of Columbus, Ohio, Joseph F. Scislowski of Milwaukee, Floyd R. Hayes of Kansas City, Michael J. Healy of Chicago and I. E. Goldberg of Milwaukee, as general counsel.

In announcing the successful and harmonious conclusion of negotiations, Hudson remarked:

"The men are well pleased with the provisions of the new contract. The committee feels it is a favorable agreement and will mark the continuation of amicable relations between the employers and drivers in the most important transportation section of the nation."

*No star has ever set that once was seen;
We always may be what we might have been.*

No strike is ever lost, even if men are sometimes forced to surrender. Some of those employers referred to above carried on a most disastrous strike against us and against the federal government about two years ago. What a pity and what a cruel loss financially to both sides that two years ago we did not do things as we have done this year. Let us hope that we shall always continue to reach agreements in the future as we did this year—sitting around the table and reasoning with one another.

Southerners Lose Political Plums

Chairmanships of Congressional Committees Go to GOP

By DANIEL J. TOBIN

ONE thing is certain as a result of the election — the labor-hating Democratic congressmen and senators from the southern states will now lose their fat plums as chairmen of all the important committees of Congress. *

These men, many of them, are not Democrats as we understand the meaning of the term. They have done everything possible in recent years to help the Republicans and to defeat the human, just legislative requests of President Roosevelt.

Now they will be sitting on the sidelines and perhaps making deals with the Republican chairmen of those committees to destroy or shackle labor.

What monies have been handed out by those important committees, principally controlled by the chairmen, is beyond computation. It is rumored that enough federal funds have been expended in the southern states during the last 14 years to practically rebuild those states.

Early in the first Roosevelt term, while serving on a committee, I discovered that the government had loaned the cotton producers \$75,000,000.

Cotton was then selling at a very low price. It was costing the government about four million dollars a year to pay for warehousing cotton.

Now, and for several years past, the government does not have a mortgage on the coming crops of cotton nor has the government had to warehouse cotton to any extent.

The price of cotton had almost quadrupled until the break in the market which occurred recently.

The old men from the South who had all these fat jobs will remain in Washington but without the power to make themselves, their families, and their clientele wealthy at the expense of the government.

All the southern representatives are not in that class. There are some decent, high class, honorable men, but the majority of

them are more opposed to labor unions and the democratic principles for which the labor movement of our country stands, than the worst died-in-the-wool corporation Republicans from other parts of the country holding positions in the government.

I do not know whether the Republican party, influenced by such men, will go off on a spree against labor. If they do, they may cook their own goose in 1948.

While it is very difficult to eliminate the old antagonisms which have existed for years in the minds of many of the Republican leaders, I am quite hopeful that the younger men in the Republican party—far seeing, progressive men such as Gov. Warren, Gov. Dewey, former Gov. Stassen and Senator Morse—will not permit their party to again be destroyed by its reactionary leaders.

The leaders of the Republican party must understand that they did not defeat labor in the last election. The men and women of labor and their friends did not take a serious interest in the election.

I know of no man who could be called a national leader who had much to say in the last campaign. Many labor voters stayed away from the polls. Others took little interest.

No leaders in whom the workers had confidence appealed to them for support of the Democratic candidates. The Republican candidates walked away with the election because the only real friends the progressive Democrats had were the masses of organized labor.

In fact the southern Democrats did more to defeat their party than the Republicans did. Labor expected nothing from the corporation Republicans but it did expect something from the Democrats, even the southern Democrats, because it was labor that put them in power and kept them there for 14 years.

Labor feels that during the last year it was doublecrossed and betrayed. This is the opinion of the members of our union and of the general membership of organized

labor. Because of that opinion, labor voters did not flock to the polls last month. And without those votes the Democrats lost control of Congress.

3 More States Pass Labor Laws

Fight Looms in Iowa Legislature Next Month

APPROVAL of drastic antilabor laws by the voters of Nebraska, South Dakota and Massachusetts in the November 5 elections has given a big lift to the drive for an anti-union legal blockbuster in Iowa.

The proposed new Iowa labor relations act requires unions to incorporate, limits union initiation fees to \$15 and annual dues and assessments to \$12, prohibits use of funds for political purposes and declares participation in strikes, picketing, or interference with commerce, production, sale and marketing of goods a felony punishable under state law.

Spearheading the drive for the bill, which is expected to come before the January session of the assembly, is *Iowa Business*, a magazine published for the first time in October in Des Moines.

Its passage would make Iowa the fourteenth state in recent years to adopt legislation whittling down the rights of labor. In the November 5 elections South Dakota, which already had an antistrike law on its books, and Nebraska both indorsed constitutional amendments making the closed shop illegal. Massachusetts favored by a 2-to-1 majority an act requiring unions to make public their finances.

A partial Federated Press survey shows 10 other states with antilabor statutes of recent vintage as follows:

Kansas—A law adopted in 1943 requires registration of unions, licensing of business agents, restricts picketing, demands financial reports sent to the state, prohibits jurisdictional strikes and secondary boycotts, and allows strikes only by majority vote.

Colorado—A so-called labor peace act passed in 1943 declares as illegal all strikes without majority vote, boycotts, sitdown

strikes, picketing activities and contributions for political purposes. It also requires unions to incorporate and state auditing of union books.

Alabama — A 1943 law requires that unions file financial statements and membership data, prohibits work permit fees, closed shop contracts or unauthorized strikes and requires licenses for union organizers.

Arkansas—A Christian American Association sponsored bill passed in 1943 outlaws closed shop agreements and sets up stiff penalties for picketing.

Florida — A constitutional amendment makes the closed shop illegal, provides for union agent licenses, requires registration of unions, bans sympathy picketing and jurisdictional strikes.

Georgia—A 1941 law prohibits strikes, slowdowns or work stoppages without a 30-day written notice.

Idaho—A 1943 law requires unions to file financial reports and prohibits picketing of farm establishments and processing plants. It also bars union officials from these premises.

Minnesota — Jurisdictional strikes are outlawed. Other strikes can be called only after a 30-day cooling off period and by majority vote. The act also bars interference with marketing, manufacturing or agricultural products.

Maryland—A law was enacted here prohibiting sitdown strikes.

Louisiana—This state has a 1946 version of the anti-union Case bill which was prevented from becoming law by President Truman's veto and which the Republicans are threatening to revive again in the GOP-controlled 80th Congress.

Curtiss Candy Co. Fights Unions

Drivers Discharged for Joining Gary, Ind., Local

THE Curtiss Candy Company of Chicago has opened an attack on the wage scales of driver-salesmen in the food, candy and bakery industries by slashing the pay of its drivers \$26 per week, according to testimony at a labor board hearing in Gary, Ind., last month.

The company is also bitterly resisting unionization and has discharged its drivers in Gary who joined Local No. 142 of the Teamsters' Union, they told the labor board.

Not a single man is employed by the company under union contract anywhere in the United States, according to the report of Kenneth M. Hindley, statistician and director of the Sixth Region Teamsters' and Chauffeurs' Conference, and Secretary-Treasurer Michael Sawochka of Local No. 142.

The report was based on evidence submitted during a National Labor Relations Board trial on charges of unfair labor practices filed by the Teamsters following the discharge by the company of its union drivers.

The Curtiss Company markets a general line of foods and confections largely under its own name, including such popular candy bars as Butterfinger, Baby Ruth, Man o' War and Jolly Jacks.

A complete list of the products of this company as compiled by Sawochka is printed below for the information of union men, particularly Teamsters, whose wage scales are being jeopardized by the action of the Curtiss Candy Company.

Curtiss Baby Ruth
Curtiss Butterfinger
Curtiss Jolly Jack
Curtiss Man-O-War
Curtiss Mint Patty
Curtiss Nickaloaf
Curtiss Buy Jiminy
Curtiss Fruit Drops
Curtiss Gum
Curtiss Saf-T-Pops

Curtiss Caramels
Curtiss Banana Caramels
Curtiss Corn Muffin Mix
Curtiss Chicos
Curtiss Prepared Mustard
Curtiss Spee D Hone
Curtiss Pretzel Stix
Curtiss Munchers
Curtiss Peanut Chicos
Curtiss Spread-Mor
Curtiss Baby Ruth Cookies
Curtiss Butterfinger Cookies
Curtiss Meat Sauce
Curtiss Kernel Corn
Curtiss Soy Sauce
Curtiss Chicken Noodle Soup
Curtiss Pancake Flour
Curtiss Peanut Butter
Curtiss Garlic Juice
Curtiss Onion Juice
Curtiss Gravy
Curtiss Ginger Bread Mix
Curtiss Poppins
Curtiss Potato Chips
Curtiss French Fries
Curtiss Miracleaid
Curtiss Marshmallows
Curtiss Almonds
Curtiss Pecans
Curtiss Cashews

The following products are sold by Curtiss Candy Company under the Carlton trade name:

Carlton Bar
Carlton Nut Roll
Carlton Dip

The Curtiss Candy Company is in competition with such union firms as Standard Brands, Kraft Foods, Best Foods, the Sawyer Biscuit Company, John Sexton Company and Reid-Murdoch, all of which have contracts with the Teamsters' Union.

The Teamsters came into conflict with the Curtiss Candy Company last January 21 when 10 of its driver-salesmen in Gary,

Ind., were informed that if they joined Local No. 142 they would be fired.

A complete report on the activities of the company since then was made to International headquarters by Hindley.

The pattern of the plot against union wages unfolded rapidly following notice served on the Curtiss salesmen on January 1 by State Manager Max Gibson, Assistant State Manager Walter Hansick and Lake County Supervisor Andrew Jones, Hindley said.

On March 9, he reported, all the drivers in the Chicago and suburban area, including the Gary drivers, were summoned to a meeting in Chicago.

The men were informed that, effective two days later, the base rate of pay would be "changed." It was not only changed but reduced.

Company officials present explained that the company would endeavor to help them make up the cut by giving them increased quantities of merchandise to sell. In other words, they would be permitted to work harder and sell more goods for less money.

The men were stunned by the news, according to Hindley, and when one Chicago driver arose to ask the company officials how they would like to have their pay reduced \$26 per week, the officials broke up the meeting and instructed each driver to come by himself to a private conference table at which seven company officials were seated.

The Gary drivers who had been originally threatened with the loss of their jobs if they joined Local No. 142 were called in first. Each man was asked what he thought of the new wage scale and each one replied that he didn't like it.

On March 12, the day after the pay cuts went into effect, the Gary drivers held a short meeting in the warehouse and decided to drive their loaded trucks down to the Teamster office, where they parked their trucks in front of the union hall and prepared to join Local No. 142 in a body.

Before they entered the building they were allegedly intercepted by Jones, the local Curtiss supervisor, who repeated his threat that if they joined the union they would be fired. He also said that unless the

men were back at the warehouse, 28 blocks away, in 10 minutes, they would be fired.

The 10 drivers turned away from Jones and entered the building, where they joined Local No. 142.

Late on the same day, March 12, the 10 Curtiss drivers began receiving registered special delivery letters stating that they were being dismissed "for lack of merchandise" as of March 16. By the morning of March 13, all the drivers had received identical letters.

Hindley's report to the International states further:

"On March 14, one driver, Farrar, who had joined the union two days earlier, wrote a letter to Hubert Downey, general sales manager of the company. In the letter Farrar stated he had made a horrible mistake in joining the union and asked forgiveness and a chance to work again for the company, preferably near Elkhorn, Wis., as he had relatives there.

"On March 15, less than 24 hours later, Downey took time from his national responsibilities to write Farrar that as long as Farrar realized he had made a mistake and was repentant, there were no hard feelings and that Farrar should come in and see Downey some time soon.

"Farrar did and was reemployed and sent to Elkhorn, Wis. The company was able to give him merchandise for a sparsely populated territory when it couldn't according to its letters of dismissal, get merchandise for densely populated Lake County, Ind.

"On March 16 the other Gary men were paid off and made to take settlement on the basis of the decreased wages announced a week previous. This took place in spite of the evidence which showed that Gary was either first or second for sales in the United States.

"The company had previously announced that because of their splendid sales record, the Gary men were to be the first drivers in the entire country to get the new large trucks the company had on order.

"The day before the men joined the union the company had posted a notice that the allotment of merchandise to each driver was being substantially increased."

All the facts recited by Hindley in his report were brought out by testimony of the drivers at the labor board hearing in the Lake county courthouse last month.

Although the unfair labor charges were filed on March 15, the case was delayed until recently. It is the opinion of Hindley and Sawochka that regardless of the decision of the trial judge, the company will drag the matter through the machinery of the NLRB and the courts for as long as possible.

Hindley, Sawochka and Secretary-Treasurer William Hicks of Local No. 772, Chicago, visited the Curtiss company's main office in Chicago in March to see if the Gary drivers could be kept working pending negotiations on a contract. The company gave the Teamster officials the brushoff.

Evidence introduced at the hearing showed that the Curtiss company did not have a single union contract in the United States nor any union relationships whatever.

The company has also set up its operations so as to avoid unionization. In Aurora, Ill., it closed a warehouse after a Teamster business agent contacted some of the men. The merchandise is now being sent direct to the drivers' homes, Hindley revealed.

The Curtiss company now employs some 1,230 driver-salesmen throughout the country. At one time it had 1,600 and under contemplated expansion plans may in-

crease the number of drivers to 2,500.

To avoid unionization, Hindley anticipates that the company will decentralize its business so that it will be almost impossible for any union to contact its drivers.

At present the Curtiss products are most widely circulated in Iowa, Kansas and Illinois, the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, Omaha and Lincoln, Neb., St. Louis, Ft. Wayne and Indianapolis.

The company has partial coverage in Shreveport and New Orleans, the Philadelphia suburbs, Baltimore, Birmingham and Columbus, Ohio. Also eastern Minnesota, Michigan, New Jersey, Texas, Arkansas, Missouri and scattered parts of Michigan.

It has slight coverage in Jackson, Miss., Boston and Denver.

It is doing an annual business of \$31,200,000 but sought to further increase its profits by slashing \$1,600,000 from the wages of its driver-salesmen.

The action of the Curtiss Candy Company reveals a pattern of union opposition which is expected to become prevalent in the near future as many industries embark on a program of breaking unions and reducing wages.

The most effective way to stop such tactics is not to patronize the products of the unfair firms. Curtiss has started the fight.

Watch for Curtiss products and don't patronize them.

Some States Have Minimum Wage Laws

President Truman twice requested Congress to set the 1946 minimum wage at 65 cents an hour, but the reactionary 79th Congress, now recessed, let the bill calling for this reasonable adjustment die of inaction. Organized labor strongly supported the President's proposal.

Progressive states like Massachusetts, New York and Illinois have had state minimum wage laws for some years. The current Illinois minimum is 50 cents an hour. Recently the labor commissioner of Massa-

chusetts ordered a minimum rate of 55 cents an hour for inexperienced workers and 60 cents an hour for experienced workers for a three month trial basis, effective as of October 15, 1946. After the end of that period he may make the order permanent.

What Massachusetts and Illinois can do for their residents, Missouri and other more backward states can also do.

So can the federal government for all workers in interstate industries.

—*St. Louis Labor Tribune.*

The labor movement itself cannot provide jobs, but it will continue to strive for its goal of full employment. Also, it will work towards placing veterans in the kind of positions they desire—*The Kansas City Labor Bulletin.*

Penn Teamsters Fan GOP Sweep

Attack on Democrats Swings Thousands of Votes

PENNSYLVANIA Teamsters, acting with the approval of International Vice-President Edward Crumbock of Philadelphia, are credited with swinging thousands of labor votes away from the Democratic Party and thereby causing the defeat of CIO candidates from Connecticut to California.

Ten days prior to the election on November 5, the policy committee of the Teamsters' Union in the Pittsburgh beer dispute, following conferences with President Tobin and Vice-President Crumbock, issued an official statement branding the Democratic leaders in Pennsylvania as tools of the CIO.

It called on Teamsters and all AFL affiliates to go to the polls and show their resentment of the Democrats by supporting Republican candidates.

The statement created a sensation in Pennsylvania and the news of it spread rapidly throughout the country, crystallizing labor hostility to the tactics of the CIO and the political candidates who were its spokesmen.

Political observers in the East regarded it as one of the most significant developments of the campaign and declared that it was unquestionably responsible for the defeat of many Democratic candidates, even as far away as California.

The statement was issued by President Albert O. Dietrich of Joint Council No. 40 of Pittsburgh, Secretary-Treasurer Martin J. Walsh of the joint council, International Organizers Nicholas P. Morrissey of Boston and James Ruehl of Buffalo and Acting International Organizer Joseph J. Quillin of Newark.

It came as a protest against the action of the Democratic city administration of Pittsburgh in mobilizing the police to break Teamster picket lines around the breweries so that beer, protected by carloads of CIO

guards and police, could be distributed.

The Pittsburgh city officials thereby injected themselves into the brewery dispute on the side of the CIO to injure the AFL.

The text of the Teamster statement follows:

"Events in Pittsburgh during the last few weeks have clearly demonstrated that the leaders of the Democratic party in Pennsylvania have become tools of the CIO. These politicians have injected themselves into the Pittsburgh brewery dispute in a manner calculated to help the CIO and hurt the AFL.

"Because of this political interference and partisanship, a purely local dispute has become a state-wide controversy to the detriment of major Pennsylvania industries and the thousands of men employed in them.

"The encouragement given the CIO in the Pittsburgh brewery dispute by Mayor David L. Lawrence, a recognized leader of the Democratic party, and his political associates, has caused the CIO to become arrogant in its raiding tactics against the AFL and its affiliated unions.

"As a consequence, the Democratic politicians in Pennsylvania must be held responsible for a situation which threatens to stifle the production of a great industrial state.

"Until recently the Teamsters of Pennsylvania had supported the Democratic party and its candidates. In view of the happenings in Pittsburgh, it is impossible for us to do so any longer.

"We therefore announce our opposition to all Democratic candidates in Pennsylvania supported by the CIO and call upon all members of the Teamsters' Union and other affiliates of the American Federation of Labor to go to the polls on November 5 to register their resentment and protect their interests by defeating the candidates of the CIO."

The vast majority go to the legislature or congress for a specific purpose, and darn few of these purposes are in any way beneficial to anyone except some special interests.—*The Boilermakers' Journal*.

Trouble Ahead for Labor Unions

President Tobin Urges Members to Avoid Strikes

By DANIEL J. TOBIN

OUR membership must keep their feet on the ground during the next year or two and endeavor to be helpful to the local union officers and to obey the laws and rules governing the local unions and the International Union.

Labor may run into trouble within the next year or two because of the enormous victories at the polls on last election day for that political party that has not in the past been very helpful or friendly as a whole to the labor movement.

In the last election three states passed antilabor legislation. The legislation will be tested as to its constitutionality in the higher courts of the land, but the general feeling is now that labor must prepare itself for a period of adversity.

I was not greatly disappointed at the results of the election. I had expected a setback for the Democrats, as I had written in previous issues of this journal. Any party in power for 14 years is bound to have a turning of the tide against it—that, in addition to the fact that antilabor legislation has been put through in recent sessions of Congress, almost as bad as any legislation that was ever enacted even in the old days of the reactionary labor hating Republican representatives under President Taft and President Harding.

The administration in power during any war is usually defeated. We well remember what happened to Woodrow Wilson after the First World War. We also are of the opinion, from reading the history of the days of Lincoln, that if he had lived, he would have been defeated in the next election.

When Lincoln was last elected, the war between the North and the South was still on, but he had serious opposition, as all men have who go through a great crisis, especially one in which the blood of thousands

had to be offered up for the preservation of the Union.

We have gone through many a setback in the labor movement, and we will go through and endure many attacks made on the labor movement within the next two or four years.

As a rule, the labor movement is strengthened by oppression. We may lose some membership. In many instances the states may outlaw the closed shop, but even without the closed or union shop, men don't have to work with undesirable individuals or with nonunion men.

This antilabor legislation, such as the Hobbs bill, which has been enacted in recent years and which may be intensified during the next few years, will not hold back the masses of the workers.

Making it a little more difficult for labor unions may arouse the interest of the membership, and I am satisfied, judging from the history of the labor movement and from my personal contacts and experiences, that the labor movement will come out stronger at the end of this antilabor campaign, if such a campaign is contemplated by the majority party today in Washington.

Members and unions must be on the alert. They must not lose sight of the fact that we must get down to earth and endeavor wherever we can to reach understandings with our employers without having recourse to a stoppage of work.

I do not mean that we should give up our right to strike. Never! But we should not use a strike except as a last resort. Unless the membership of the labor movement act within the law and try to reach understandings with our fair employers, you can rest assured that conditions will be made more difficult.

After all, the unrest that is in the air among the workers, which has caused so many stoppages of work, is not without reason and foundation.

This whole world was in war, and men went across the water and risked their lives—millions of them. It is not easy for these men to return to routine living after existing for weeks and months and years in the shadow of death. So with millions of men who have been in the service coming back to our country and trying to adjust themselves again, it is reasonable to expect that some of this unrest is due to that cause.

Then again, they have found the cost of living soaring. They have found themselves unable to buy clothes. They have found themselves unable to find a place to live, and with that spirit of recklessness which is the keystone of the bravery they exemplified on the battlefield and on the seas, they cannot be expected to just take anything that is handed to them.

But we advise them, in their own interests and in the interests of our nation and our free form of government, to get down to earth and use their heads, their diplomacy and strategy and in lawful procedure, instead of strikes and stoppages; we must use our brains instead of our muscles, and it will be that way for many years to come.

When men are elected to office in local unions they should be supported by the majority down on the floor who elected them. Very often the writer of this article, your editor, has had to make decisions that he did not like to make, but when the constitution of the International Union, which he is obligated to carry out, is placed in his hands, he must decide in accordance with the rules of the game or else we would have no organization.

I have seen in my time this organization grow up from a membership of 25,000 to a membership of over 800,000, and it has not been done except by hard work and by close observance of the rules and by honest consideration for the rights of others.

We are having a convention next year and I want every local union represented. The laws may be changed at that convention, and it is your duty to help to build a stronger organization by adopting the laws and rules to govern its procedure.

Any local union that ignores the laws or refuses to obey them is violating every prin-

ciple upon which the labor movement is founded, and in many instances it would be better for the International Union that such unions were not a part of the great body of labor. Of course, this is the case in but very few instances, and only where men have been persecuted unjustly and where employers are so unreasonable through their agencies and their representatives that they close their eyes to the fact that men's dollars have been reduced in purchasing power to such an extent that it almost takes two dollars to buy what we bought a few years ago for a dollar and a half.

I am writing this article for the benefit of our membership and not for the aid of the employers who will misconstrue, misinterpret and quote one or two lines—the lines that suit them best.

The only way I can reach the great membership of the International Union is through the columns of this journal, and I appeal to them to watch their acts and their decisions carefully for the next two years.

I appeal to them to attend their meetings during the coming year and not let a few hot-headed, perhaps slightly unbalanced, minds run away with the ball.

With a large membership of five or six thousand in a local union, you are bound to have some men with excitable minds who have not the power of reasoning matters out. It is your duty to watch their actions, to be present at your meetings, to support your local officers while they are in office because otherwise the conditions that you now enjoy—the splendid wages and working hours—can be destroyed by immature or radical action. I therefore appeal to our membership to be careful, to be real union men because the history of this movement is that it can go up as it has in recent years, but it also can come down.

While a period of prosperity seems to be with us now and may be with us for the next two or three years, it is just as certain as the movement of the tides that this prosperity will wane and go back, and we will be confronted again, perhaps, with unemployment, depression and with other disturbances that may set back the masses of the toilers who are the backbone and life of our country.

Wildcat Strikers Face Expulsion

International Demands Drastic Penalties for Agitators

By DANIEL J. TOBIN

THE international officials are determined to stop wildcat strikes called by individual members of unions who, in their own opinion, believe they are leaders of labor. Individuals of this kind are obstructionists and have no regard for their union obligation or for the laws made by their unions. The actions of the above type of individual in encouraging men to stop work without going through the procedures laid down in the international constitution and in their agreements with their employers are so injurious to the general labor movement and to the Teamsters' organization especially that drastic action must be taken against such individuals.

We are instructing and insisting that the local officials prefer charges against such individuals and give them a fair trial in accordance with our laws, first, before the local executive board; second, either side has the right to appeal to the joint council executive board from any decision made; and, third, they can appeal from the decision of the joint council executive board—either side—to the international executive board, and beyond that they can appeal—either side—to the national convention.

In the meantime, the decision of the local union must be put into effect as soon as possible, unless the joint council is meeting within ten days after the decision of the local union.

This International Union has too much at stake to allow defiance of its laws and the laws and rules governing local unions and the contracts on which our honor is pledged, which we have with our employers—that is, our faithful promise to carry out those contracts as much as it is humanly possible during the life of the contract.

Men who participate in unlawful strikes are a menace to their own people or to those who follow them, to the local union and to

the ranks and file of the organized trade unionists of America. No sympathy or excuses should interfere with the carrying out of the above procedure.

This International Union with its 800,000 paid-up members, an organization which has a standing second to none in the labor movement, cannot afford to have its laws and rules set aside by impetuous or perhaps office-seeking individuals who are willing to risk the very foundation upon which our organization is founded, even to the extent of destroying our unions in their district, by their plotting or planning or lack of understanding and judgment, and in their desire and blinding ambition to become penny-ante leaders in their local unions.

The actions of such individuals will undoubtedly bring down on the heads of honest men and women of labor—that great multitude of working people who have been helped and in many instances saved from poverty and starvation by the trade union movement—we repeat, such actions will bring down on their heads the wrath and enmity of the enemies of labor and will undoubtedly be helpful in bringing about adverse legislation against the trade union movement of America.

Because of a few blinded, hair-brained individuals who are unfit to be leaders but who desire to be leaders, the great multitude of the toilers of America may have to suffer. Consequently, any punishment meted out to such individuals, even to full expulsion from membership, is not too severe. We must have respect for law and order. We must respect our contracts. We must get rid of the ulcers within the body of the organized toilers of America.

It is well for this International Union and for our local unions that our officership is not composed of this type of man. The international executive board has deter-

mined to carry out our constitution, and we say that we are better off without this kind of men in our union than to have them as members, and in every instance where

charges are preferred and the men found guilty, the International Union shall see to it that the decisions reached shall be carried out to the letter, no matter what it costs.

What's the Future of the Democrats?

Party of Roosevelt Fails Under Incompetent Advisers

JUST as we expected, the Democratic candidates throughout the nation got slaughtered on election day.

Of course, the leadership or spokesmen of the party will attribute this defeat to certain circumstances which usually prevail, as they will state, in off-presidential years, but such a slaughter was not expected by the Democratic leaders.

Some months ago this publication had stated very plainly that there was, in its judgment, defeat of a serious nature in store for the Democrats. Why? Because, first, no party can stay in power all those years without many people desiring a change. But, secondly and mainly, the workers of the nation are disappointed and somewhat discouraged with what has been going on in Washington since the death of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

For many years, the president of this International Union was one of those in charge of the national campaigns of the Democratic Party in presidential election years. For four general elections—since 1932 and including 1944—he was successful in inducing most of the men and women of labor, organized as well as unorganized, to work together in the interests and towards the election of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his associates.

No one will ever know how bitter a pill it was for President Tobin to swallow to have to work with the leaders of the PAC and the Communists, but he had a job to do, and that job was to defeat the money changers in our nation and the enemies of the toilers and the warmongers who were on their way to destroy civilization.

He fully realized that the salvation of the human race was at stake in the 1940 and 1944 elections. He fully realized that not

only was our own country menaced by the mongers of war who were then trampling on the people of Europe, but humanity itself was in danger.

The very foundation of freedom and religion was being shaken, attacked and in danger of being destroyed. This is why he made the sacrifice that he made—the president of this Brotherhood—to elect men to office who knew the European and Asiatic war and its leaders. He knew President Roosevelt was the one man in our country best qualified to bring us out of the awful mess into which the human race was being sunk.

There is no other Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The human policies, justice and fair dealing that he advocated seem to be forgotten. The men whom he helped to bring forward have deserted his principles and his teachings.

We do not fall down in idolatry to any man, and we do not kiss the feet of any human creature, but the labor movement of the nation should never forget its debt of gratitude to the late President Roosevelt and to the men with whom he surrounded himself. Their help was needed to put into legislation and practice the human rights and policies which he not only advocated, but in which he believed, and fought for, and made law.

There is a lack of leadership today in both parties, but especially in the Democratic party. No matter what they try to say to alibi, prospects for 1948 are not encouraging—with this exception—that if the Republicans now get drunk with their power, as they may, and if they allow the old labor haters—men such as Mr. Pew in Pennsylvania, head of the Sun Oil Corporation, and his type—to run and direct their actions,

then you can rest assured that the Democrats will dig up some progressive leaders who will run away with the ball again in 1948.

We say to the Republicans, "If you have not profited by the experiences of the last 14 to 16 years, then you do not deserve to be elected to office in 1948."

There is another substantial reason for the overwhelming overthrow of the Democratic candidates, especially in states that are Democratic, like Kentucky. The PAC of the CIO, lined up with the Communists, was a menace to the Democratic party.

The rank and file of the American Federation of Labor, including the Miners and Carpenters, who had worked hand in hand with President Tobin and with the great organization set up by the Teamsters in the last four general elections, refused to do anything in this last campaign.

They refused because they felt they had been betrayed by the administration in Washington, especially by the signing and passage of the Hobbs Bill, which was aimed directly at the Teamsters' Union, although every honest-thinking man in Washington stated that there was no need for such legislation.

Another point we want to call to the attention of the administration is this—you can't carry the American workers by your present machine and with such impossible, politically helpless advisors as are now in Washington, willing to lick the boots of "them who made 'em."

These men were never able to do much with the voters, especially with the workers

who elected the Democrats for 16 years. Many never gave a dollar to help elect the Democratic leaders.

We are extremely sorry for some of the men who went down in defeat in this last election, but we are not at all surprised, because we could see it coming, and there was nobody that we knew in Washington who had the ability or the influence or the strategy to convince the workers of the justice of the Democratic claims.

It is a pity and a crime that the work and the party that it took a lifetime to build up, under the leadership of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, has been sabotaged by the ill-advisors and penny-ante politicians surrounding the administration. But a leader who can't separate the weeds from the wheat should be held responsible.

There is still a very slight chance for the Democrats to do something in 1948—we say a very slight chance—and that is that they profit by their errors and surround themselves with men who understand the human side of life—men who have the confidence of the workers of the nation, organized and unorganized, and individuals who have proved their unselfishness in the past in the cause of our country in its darkest hours.

There are many of those unselfish men who want no jobs or no special protection for their large corporations. We further advise the administration to get rid of the ten-cent politicians who have helped to bring the Democratic party of Roosevelt to the defeat and destruction and disgrace which overtook it on Tuesday, November 5, 1946.

Production Will Bring Lower Prices

It is now 16 months since V-J Day. During this period reconversion to peacetime production has been virtually completed despite the delays caused by industrial disputes.

In many areas of the economy the pipelines have been filled and supplies are coming to the market more freely. Under these circumstances the danger of runaway price rises has been significantly reduced. The

problem now is to increase the flow of needed goods.

Business and labor have a joint responsibility to do everything in their power to expand output. The President correctly pointed out that "abundant production is the only sure and safe road to a free market." This is also the road to higher real wages and to lower prices.

—*The Worcester (Mass.) Labor News.*

Slurs on Truck Drivers Resented

Cincinnati Union Official Springs to Their Defense

BUSINESS AGENT EARL QUIGLEY of Local No. 100, Cincinnati, has started a campaign to end slurs against truck drivers with surprising results.

Quigley recently addressed letters to the editors of the Cincinnati newspapers expressing his resentment against movie and newspaper jokes depicting truck drivers as moronic and obscene characters.

The *Cincinnati Times-Star* published Quigley's letter in full while the *Cincinnati Post* sent a reporter to interview Quigley, with a photographer to take pictures of typical truck drivers at work and at home with their families.

Featured in the *Post* were William Lacy as an average truck driver pictured at the wheel of his trailer-truck and at home with Mrs. Lacy and their two sons, William, Jr., 17, and Robert, 15.

Charles R. Brewer, also a member of Local No. 100, was photographed as typical of the younger men who have taken up truck driving as a profession since the war.

Brewer, 25 years old, was shown with his wife and three-year-old son, Charles, Jr.

The article in the *Post*, accompanying the pictures of the truck drivers, pointed out that Lacy had been driving for the same company for 24 years and had driven for more than 10 years, "rain and shine and sleet, without an accident."

There are 8,000 truck drivers in Cincinnati who average more than \$50 a week in wages, the newspaper said.

Quigley's letter to the newspapers, which aroused so much favorable publicity, is reproduced below as it appeared in the *Times-Star*:

"I have been wanting to take up with you for some time a matter which rankles me no little and about which I can do nothing. You also will probably be at a loss as to a solution to this problem, but, at least, I will have the satisfaction of having gotten it off my chest.

"For several years, it has been the practice of newspaper cartoonists and movie producers to slur the truck driving profession.

"For example, in a recent movie, the hero, passionately in love with the heroine, requested her hand in marriage. She, at that point in the picture, being quite indifferent to his charms, advised him, 'I'd rather marry a truck driver.'

"Another example: in a cartoon a commanding officer queried of one of his company if he was going to return to his civilian occupation of truck driving.

"He, of course, replied that he wouldn't consider such a thing in view of the advantages for education and advancement offered by the GI Bill of Rights.

"Another cartoon featured this situation: A small boy with a little red truck, after having used profanity and being reprimanded by his father, said, 'But, Dad, if I'm going to be a truck driver, I have to learn to swear.'

Also, recently, while attending to some business in the office of a local concern, I overheard two female employees discussing plans for the evening. One informed the other that she had an engagement with so-and-so, whereupon the other cried in a horrified voice, 'Why, he's only a truck driver!'

"These are only four of the many references to truck drivers which I consider derogatory.

"Now, I ask you, what is the matter with the truck driving profession?

"Most truck drivers are as well educated as those of any other labor category and some of them even have college educations. It is certain that drivers are as morally correct as any other class and are of at least normal intelligence.

"Why should the truck driver be singled out as the lowest and most degraded form of humanity?

"Why should truck drivers be treated as

though it were impossible for them to achieve anything requiring intelligence beyond the mental age of three?

"Most truck drivers are proud of their chosen profession and resent being referred to as 'only a truck driver.'

"It is well known that truck drivers, when Saturday rolls around, are not paid off in beer chips. It is quite usual for a driver to receive a greater remuneration for his week's work than that received by an office employee or factory worker employed by the same firm by which the driver is employed.

"Why, then, should the truck driver be burdened with a stigma which the other two employee classifications are able to escape?

"Either of the two above groups works merely a specified number of hours per day, having responsibility only insofar as their work is concerned, which involves no financial risk.

"However, the truck driver is daily charged with the responsibility of several thousand dollars' worth of company equipment as well as cargo which not infrequently is valued in excess of \$100,000.

"Could it be that a man in the position of an employer could possibly be stupid enough

to place such valuable property in the hands of one whom newspaper cartoonists and movie producers would lead the public to believe is a mental midget?

"Further, who is the big-hearted guy who never refuses assistance to a fellow motorist in trouble? Is it your ordinary tourist or daily commuter? No! It's the truck driver!

"This is the man you can count on in such an emergency. He has established for himself a reputation for being the greatest aid and the most courteous person on the road. Can your factory workers, office personnel or any other category of laboring people say as much?

"I want you to know that this can be considered the opening gun in my personal campaign to give the truck driver his rightful place in American life. The American public is conscious of his many virtues, although, as has anyone, he naturally has his faults.

"Of course, I am not including cartoonists and movie producers in the category 'American public.' They seem to have lost touch. It would seem to be the proper moment for them to select another group as their object of ridicule."

Runaway Rents Threaten Public Welfare

With rent control expected to be one of the early targets of the GOP-controlled 80th Congress, economists recall some significant facts about the wild rent inflation that followed World War I.

From the beginning of the war in 1914 to the armistice in 1918, rents increased 5.3 per cent. But after the armistice, rents had shot up 46.5 per cent by the end of 1921, notwithstanding the economic depression of 1920-21, which caused a sharp drop in the general commodity price level. Rents con-

tinued to increase until they reached a peak in 1925 that was 57 per cent above the armistice level.

Rents soared after the armistice even though the housing shortage was much less acute in 1918 than it is in 1946. If the powerful real estate lobby in Washington wins its fight to kill rent controls in the midst of the worst housing shortage in the nation's history, runaway rents will ruin the living standards of millions of families, Federated Press was told.

Nazis Die But Their Ideas Live On

The sentences handed down by the international tribunal at Nuremberg have been carried out. The chief instigators of the Nazi crimes against humanity have paid with their lives. But let's not fool ourselves—the poisons of Nazism did not die with those leaders.

The vicious doctrines of dictatorships, religious bigotry and race hatred that these men fostered cannot be banned by tribunals or strangled by gallows. They must be rooted out of the minds and actions of men the world over before the ghost of Nazism is finally laid.—*Mobile Labor Journal*.

A Statement

By LESTER M. HUNT

IN OUR issue of November, 1944, appeared an article entitled "Conscription Is Essential to Peace," by Lester M. Hunt. In that article we discussed an article circulated among union leaders under the name of the "Postwar World Council" with a letter signed by Broadus Mitchell and bearing the name of Mr. Norman Thomas as chairman and Oswald Garrison Villard as treasurer.

This article discussed the subject of conscription and vigorously opposed the enactment by Congress of a compulsory conscription law. The policy of THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER favored compulsory conscription. Thus the article, "Conscription Is Essential to Peace," was published in the nature of a reply to the article of the Postwar World Council.

Mr. Thomas instituted suit for libel because the article contained some derogatory personal statements reflecting upon Mr. Thomas. In the proceedings that followed, we have learned that we are in error concerning the personal references to Mr. Thomas. Specifically, we have learned the following things:

1. The leaflet against peacetime military conscription—"How to Make a Worker a Strikebreaker"—published by the Postwar World Council, was not written by Mr. Thomas, who had taken leave of absence from his post as chairman of the council during the presidential campaign. We are informed that Mr. Thomas did not even see the leaflet until after its publication, although he has since expressed his satisfaction with it.

2. We acknowledge that the fact that Mr. Thomas is opposed to peacetime military conscription is not a reflection upon his patriotism or loyalty as a citizen of the United States. In the course of the discus-

sion of the subject, various persons and organizations, including labor organizations, have divided; some, as does the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, favor peacetime conscription, and others oppose it.

3. We have learned that Mr. Thomas was one of the earliest critics of Fascism and Nazism and at no time in any way condoned any of Hitler's crimes.

4. We are informed that he was a blood donor and an air raid warden. His two sons were at the front, as were the two sons of the writer of the article in the Teamsters' magazine. He states that he opposed America's entrance into the war before Pearl Harbor and gives as his reason that "he did not believe that the United States had the wisdom and power to play God to the world by the method of war, because he feared America would lose more than the world would gain," and because after Hitler attacked Stalin he feared that "the result of the war would be a choice of dictators."

Mr. Thomas points out, however, that after Pearl Harbor he felt that there was no practical alternative but to support the war until such time as we could win a just and lasting peace, and that was the position he took inside the Socialist Party and in public.

Mr. Thomas makes clear that his "main concern was with a political peace offensive to shorten the war and win just terms." While we have not agreed with Mr. Thomas in his stand before Pearl Harbor, we acknowledge that his conduct in no way amounted to sabotage of the war, but was within his rights as an American citizen in following the policy referred to.

In view of the information we now have, and which we now share with our readers, we express our regret to Mr. Thomas for the article to which he took exception and for any hurt it may have caused him.

By DANIEL J. TOBIN

During the 40 years in which I have been president of the International Brotherhood

of Teamsters and editor of the Teamsters' magazine, I have endeavored to conduct it

on a high plane. The magazine accepts no advertising, and no profit is realized therefrom.

It has been my policy never unjustly to injure any person through this magazine.

While I do not agree with the political or economic philosophy of Mr. Thomas, the

personal reference to him in the article was erroneous, as we have since learned. I am, therefore, pleased to approve the above statement by Mr. Lester M. Hunt, who wrote the article which was published in the November, 1944, issue of the Teamsters' magazine.

Buyers' Strike Hits Automobiles

Further proof that consumers cannot afford to buy high priced products come in two recent front page stories in the *Wall Street Journal*.

Latest in the series of *Journal* surveys of industries hit by "sales resistance" cover the auto and direct mail industries.

Cash responses to sales offers made by the half billion dollar direct mail industry "have slumped badly—and at a season when they should be highest," the *Journal* reported November 5. A poll of 50 important users of mail advertising by Mailings, Inc., on "current response to mail efforts" brought a high point in dismal answers. "Worst in years," the majority said.

The direct mail industry includes such big catalog firms as Sears Roebuck and Montgomery Ward, which appeal to low income groups and farmers.

A cross-country survey of auto dealers, reported in the *Journal* November 4, showed

an increasingly high percentage of cancelled orders for autos, with large numbers changing their orders from larger autos to lower priced cars like Fords and Plymouths.

Of the big auto firms' campaign for another \$100 price increase, a Packard dealer in Chicago said, "We had cancellations of orders when the last price rise went into effect. If it goes much further we'll have a full-fledged buyers' strike on our hands. The average citizen is beginning to think it out, and \$100 is going to make a lot of difference."

In Pittsburgh a Hudson dealer reported: "Food on the table comes first and then clothing, and after that folks buy 'the kind of car that fits their pocketbooks best.' All along the line the public is getting irritable. With thinner wallets and with price increases almost everywhere, people's minds have become a little bit warped about the whole thing."—*Federated Press*.

U. S. Needs Better Educational System

Recent conferences of school teachers have heard nationally known educators call for more schools, better schools, finer equipment and higher wages for teachers. That is a program which makes good sense. It is one which organized labor can and will endorse wholeheartedly.

Our population has increased tremendously as a result of the war. All our schools are overcrowded. The program is further complicated by the fact that the wages of school teachers have not kept pace with the wages of other working people. Good teach-

ers are hard to find; there are not enough to go around.

This is a fact: Better wages for school teachers and better schools for our children spell finer educational opportunities and better citizenship.

Yes, we can afford to put this program into effect. Don't let the big property owners fool you. We cannot afford to let our school system down.

It's going to be needed more in the years to come than ever before.

—*Ft. Wayne Labor News*.

The benighted South, long a hotbed of sweatshops and low wages, seems unwilling to concede the fact that collective bargaining and unionism are today permanently on the American labor scene.—*St. Louis Union Labor Advocate*.

CIO Blundered in WFTU Deal

World Federation Is Controlled by Communists

By DANIEL J. TOBIN

WELL, it looks bad for the CIO PAC. In addition to having lost the faith and good will of millions of the toilers because of their foolishness, they bring on other unnecessary squabbles and fights with labor, such as jurisdictional fights.

The first blunder they made in recent years was to join and promote, through the late Sidney Hillman, the World Federation of Trade Unions, which embraced and gave enormous representation within the councils of that organization to countries which had no real legitimate labor organizations, especially Russia, which would have under their setup the largest vote of any organization in the World Federation of Trade Unions.

Some of us know why this thing was promoted and created by the CIO, which was strongly influenced by the late Mr. Hillman, but the time is not yet here for disclosure of those reasons.

The English labor movement got into this Communist outfit and then tried to back away. Eventually it had to disgustingly go along with this World Federation of Trade Unions controlled by distinctly Communist doctrines and leaders, such as the representatives from Mexico and Russia.

That was the first blunder of the CIO, which helped to create lack of confidence in their political movement in this country.

They have made other blunders which perhaps they can find excuses for. All of us have made mistakes, but none of us that I know of has endeavored to bluff all the people by getting them to acquiesce and approve of our mistakes.

I think one of the greatest qualities in any man or nation or in any great institution is the courage and the honesty to admit a mistake when it has been made, especially when that mistake is made unintentionally.

I don't think the creation of the World Federation of Trade Unions, promoted by Mr. Hillman and a few others that are still

in the picture, was an unintentional blunder.

I think it was carefully plotted and planned, and I think back of some of it was the desire, the burning desire to be great figures in world affairs by many of the men who promoted it—some in England as well as in our country.

They wanted to be the topnotchers, and they had dreams, not only night dreams, but day dreams, of their self-importance and how their names would go down in history as being the saviors of the human race. One of those is still in England and functioning in some capacity, but not in the labor movement. His jealousy of Bevin and his desire for the limelight prompted him to create the World Communist Labor Federation.

The Russian leaders backed the creation of the World Federation of Trade Unions, not for their own personal gains or to satisfy their own personal ambitions. No, we must say this about Russian leaders—whatever they do is done for the doctrines and the form of government which they believe in—Communism.

Communism is their religion and their god, if they believe in any god, and individualism or self-glory mean nothing to those men.

I am going to say now that it is my personal opinion that the Communist agents and the promoters of Communism, not only in Russia but elsewhere in Europe, fostered, helped, and did create and secretly control, because they have the voting strength, the World Federation of Trade Unions.

What a pity that our American CIO PAC got mixed up in this thing through the pleadings of some of the Communists and near-Communists who were holding responsible positions in many of the organizations connected with the CIO.

In addition to this, the CIO and the PAC are, by their continued antagonism toward organizations of labor connected with the

American Federation of Labor, turning against them at the polls the membership of the entire American Federation of Labor and their friends. The writer of this article has never been frightened by either adverse labor legislation or hateful politicians or crooked corporation representatives.

For 50 years the Teamsters' Union has fought its enemies in public life, but the Teamsters' Union regrets to have to battle for its legal, justified jurisdiction with other labor organizations, but if it has to do that, the Teamsters' Union has no other alternative except to fight for its rights and the jurisdiction which it believes in and which

has been granted to it and recognized by all fair-minded organizations for the past 50 years.

The Teamsters' Union cannot back away from any raid made on it by anyone or any number. It never has, and it never will, although in some instances some of those battles are displeasing. But if we have to sever our political connections and associates to maintain our jurisdiction and to prevent CIO organizations from attempting to destroy that jurisdiction, then even that price must and will be paid by the Teamsters. Our first consideration is the Teamsters' Union.

Holdout N. Y. Employers Sign With Local 807

The 58-day trucking strike in New York came to an end October 28 when a small group of holdout employers admitted defeat in their fight against union demands for a 31-cent hourly pay increase and a 40-hour week.

The final surrender sign was hung out when Joseph Adelizzi, representing two big carriers' associations, announced dissolution of the employers' wage scale committee. The action formally freed individual employers to sign contracts with the three International Brotherhood of Teamsters' locals involved.

Settlement followed the formula offered by the H. C. Bohack food chain, which led to the first big break in employers' ranks 17 days after the walkout began September 1. Hundreds of firms followed suit, leaving about one-fourth of the strikers still out.

The final break was presaged a week ago when many large trucking outfits disavowed the Adelizzi group and signed individual contracts with the unions. Slightly more

than a thousand of the 15,000 original strikers were still idle October 29, but union leaders predicted that most of these would be back at work within 48 hours as holdout firms rushed to settle.

It would take about two weeks to clear away huge backlogs of merchandise in freight yards and warehouses and resume normal operations, President John Strong of Teamsters' Local No. 807, estimated.

Answering a swan song antiunion blast by Adelizzi, who warned that the settlement would bring "chaos" to the industry, David Kaplan, chief economist for the International Union, said:

"There will be no chiseling on this contract. We expect there will be more stability in the industry than ever before. Any hysterical efforts to bring about a condition of chaos will be completely thwarted through the determination of the union to obtain rigid contract enforcement."

—*Federated Press.*

Aroused Consumers Can Punish Profiteers

The decontrol orders now pouring out of Washington herald the end of an era. OPA is, to all intents and purposes, dead. The UAW-AFL fought an uncompromising struggle to keep adequate price controls. This last Congress killed that hope when it passed an unworkable and nonsensical substitute bill.

The moguls of industry have won—or have they? The workers still have an ace in the hole.

The buyers' strike introduced by the UAW-AFL months ago is the answer. There is no profit in goods lying in warehouse bins or foodstuffs crammed in storage houses.

—*The AFL Auto Worker.*



LABOR NEWS NOTES OF THE MONTH

From the Federated Press

OMAHA, NEB.—“We are going to continue to fight the anti closed shop amendment in the courts until we get it removed from the statute books,” President J. J. Guenther of the Nebraska Federation of Labor said here. The amendment was adopted in the November 5 elections.

WASHINGTON—Democratic party liberals in the Senate were given a hot potato when the Republican steering committee announced plans to oppose the seating of Senator Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi on January 3.

NEW YORK—A survey on American labor in the October 31 issue of *Fortune* magazine reveals that veterans, supposedly foes of labor, are actually more friendly than the general population. Among veterans, 49.6 per cent thought unions were doing a good job while 47.4 per cent thought not.

MADISON, WIS.—Farmer purchasing power began a downward trend here in September despite soaring dairy prices, the U. S. and Wisconsin agriculture departments announced in a joint report.

WASHINGTON—President A. Philip Randolph of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (AFL) was denounced by AFL President William Green and a group of top leaders in the shopcraft unions for claiming a victory in the Chicago AFL convention, whereas in fact the convention deplored the activities of Randolph's union.

NEW YORK—Bowling to strong pressure by *The Reader's Digest*, the Department of Justice has agreed not to prosecute its associate editor, George T. Eggleston, who is accused in an official report of having received \$15,000 from the Nazis to publish Hitler propaganda in the U. S., *In Fact* revealed in its November 4 issue.

SAN DIEGO, CALIF.—An example of what happens when price controls are lifted is being afforded in the tuna industry, of which San Diego is the world capital. With controls off this product, the price has leaped to \$310 a ton from \$200 a ton, the increase, of course, to be passed on to the consumer.

WASHINGTON—The AFL has accepted and the CIO has declined an invitation to send four representatives to investigate labor conditions in Argentina. The CIO informed the Argentine government that it accepted invitations to visit foreign countries only “through respective national trade union centers.” The AFL said its acceptance is conditional on a supplementary invitation from Argentine labor.

WASHINGTON—So many housewives here are determined not to pay sky-high prices for meat that retail stores are slashing prices to get rid of their old stocks.

LANSING, MICH.—The Michigan Federation of Labor (AFL), aided by the Michigan CIO Council, is pushing an initiative petition to amend the state constitution to prohibit sales taxes on human food and nonalcoholic beverages. About two-fifths of present sales tax revenues come from these sources.

WASHINGTON—Recognizing that the administration's price control program is almost entirely out the window, the League of Women Voters has launched a nation-wide campaign urging consumers to resist inflated prices, to buy only goods which are plentiful, and to use substitutes for scarce goods.

DENVER—Three out of four Americans—74 per cent—think both the Soviet Union and the U. S. are at fault in the misunderstandings between the two countries, according to a survey by the University of Denver's National Opinion Research Center.

NEW YORK—Members of American unions are being imprisoned in China under Chinese law since the U. S. withdrew its extraterritorial rights from that country, the United Seamen's Service revealed here.

WASHINGTON—All signs on the economic horizon point to a severe economic recession in 1947, according to a survey of the New Council of American Business released here November 13.

DETROIT—"The Congress conservative coalition will be up against the fact that not a share of stock, savings account, piece of land, mortgage or insurance policy will be worth much if the federal government cuts its budget in half," Secretary Bon Marsh of the People's Lobby, Washington, told its Detroit members November 13.

WASHINGTON—Confirming a report carried by the Federated Press that a federal grand jury here will look into the activities of the former editors of *Scribner's Commentator*, one of whom is employed by *The Reader's Digest*, Heribert von Stempel, former first secretary of the German embassy, reached Washington November 12.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—An immediate 15 per cent rent increase is needed for the "oppressed" real estate industry, President Robert R. Wason of the National Association of Manufacturers told a meeting of the Society of Industrial Realtors here. The conference, held in connection with the annual convention of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, also heard the NAM leader demand that rent ceilings on new housing be lifted at once and removed from existing houses early in 1947.

WASHINGTON—Maintenance of rent control and a use of wartime presidential powers to speed production of industrialized (prefabricated) housing are the main points of emphasis in a veterans' housing program urged November 15 by Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., housing chairman of the American Veterans' Committee.

DETROIT—The churches and synagogues in the Soviet Union are crowded, reported Chairman Louis Levine of the National Jewish Council for Russian Relief to the Detroit committee at a Masonic Temple banquet November 12.

CHICAGO—Permits for new residential construction dropped off 14 per cent here in September, while nonresidential construction jumped 10 per cent, according to figures released by the Illinois Labor Department.

WASHINGTON—A challenge to the Republican party to make good its campaign promises to Negroes was contained in a memorandum left with prospective Republican House Speaker Joseph Martin November 15 by a delegation from the convention of the National Council of Negro Women.

CHICAGO—The Chicago police department should follow the example of the New York City department by ousting policemen who belong to the KKK, the Bund, the Christian Front and other un-American organizations, demands the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee. The New York action was taken following passage of the state FEPC act. The city of Chicago has a similar city ordinance to the New York state measure.

SIDNEY, AUSTRALIA—U. S. antitrust laws will be used as a guide in a new Australian government effort to clip the wings of monopolies. Flaws in the U. S. laws, however, will be carefully avoided, according to Attorney General Clarence Martin, who says: "One of the outstanding lessons to be learned from the American legislation is the capacity of big business to find a legal loophole to circumvent the law."

PHILADELPHIA—A federal court here found Armour & Co., one of the Big Four meat packers, guilty on 17 counts of an indictment charging it with forcing customers to take unwanted commodities to obtain such scarce items as meat and butter.

BOSTON—As spokesmen for shoe retailers throughout the country indicated they would strongly resist sharp price increases resulting from the lifting of OPA controls on shoes, leather and hides, leather spokesmen in this center of the nation's footwear industry revealed they anticipate at least a 100 per cent increase in leather prices.

AFL Per Capita Tax Increased

Report of Delegates to American Federation of Labor
Convention Held in Chicago, Illinois, October, 1946

THE 65th convention of the American Federation of Labor opened in Chicago on October 6 with the usual number of addresses by the governor of Illinois, the mayor of Chicago, representatives of labor and several others, whose addresses are printed in the proceedings of the session.

It was noticeable that at this convention, for the first time in the history of the federation since the United States Department of Labor was created, the secretary of labor was not invited to address the convention.

It was quite understandable that a very high tribute was paid to the AFL because of the fact that the CIO is not very strong in Illinois compared to its strength in other places and that both organizations of Mine Workers are out of the CIO, the larger of those organizations being in the AFL and the Progressive Miners going along as an independent organization.

The Teamsters were fully represented by seven delegates who were in continuous attendance.

Thomas E. Flynn of Indianapolis was appointed a delegate by the general president to substitute for John O'Rourke of New York, who was unable to be present. Dave Beck of Seattle was appointed to substitute for Frank Brewster of Seattle, who had to leave the convention on important business before its close.

The convention was very poorly accommodated due to the fact that it was impossible to get a suitable hall for the meeting or hotel accommodations such as we have had for previous conventions. This can be attributed to the condition obtaining in every large city relative to large halls and also to the scarcity of headquarters for a large convention which continues in session seven or eight days.

However, although the delegates were packed in a hall that was not very well ventilated, in the Morrison Hotel, the convention managed to transact its business.

As usual, many governmental representatives were there from Washington, stating their positions relative to disarmament and relative to strikes and all the other serious questions with which the labor movement is confronted at this time.

The delegates of your International Union were serving on committees of importance and attended each session of each committee, watching the interests of the International Union and in every other way protecting, in accordance with their judgment, the labor movement. It is no easy matter to solve the problems of labor today.

The general president had a serious cold and was confined to his room during many sessions of the convention. He had to resign as chairman of the committee on laws, in which position he has served for many years.

The only serious problem that would seriously affect our International Union was a recommendation by the executive council that the per capita tax or revenue of the American Federation of Labor be increased.

This necessitated a change in the laws or the constitution of the federation. The recommendation of the council, which was adopted by the convention, was, in substance, an amendment to the constitution raising the per capita tax.

The committee on laws was divided on this matter. A large majority of the committee approved the recommendation of the executive council. There was a minority report which was supported by some of the members of that committee, which wanted to raise the tax higher than that recommended by the council or by the majority of the committee in its report.

The general president, who was chairman of your delegation, appeared in the convention that afternoon and, proceeding to the platform, delivered an address supporting the majority report of the committee. When the final vote was taken, the report of the committee was almost unanimously adopted.

This change in the laws which increases the per capita tax from all national and international unions means a substantial increase in the per capita tax of your International Brotherhood to the American Federation of Labor.

Last year and in the preceding years, our per capita tax to the AFL on our membership was about \$93,000. With this raise now going into effect the first of January, our annual per capita tax will be somewhere in the vicinity of \$132,000, a raise of almost \$40,000 to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, on the same membership that we have been paying on in recent years.

The federation gave its reasons, which were substantial and sound, for the necessity of increasing its revenue. The federation is carrying on a large and extensive organizing campaign in the southern states, and it has innumerable other expenses which have increased in recent years.

Although the federation is financially sound, it needs more money to carry on, and for that reason the great majority of the international organizations favored this increase in revenue.

We might add here that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters had the largest vote of any organization in the convention.

The election of officers went along without any objection to any individual member of the executive council. There was some talk early in the convention, as there usually is, of some objection to some of the members of the council, but this faded out as the convention went along, and eventually all members of the executive council were elected without opposition.

It was voted to hold the next convention in San Francisco in October, 1947, provided, however, that hotel accommodations and suitable halls can be obtained at that time. There were many requests for the next convention, but San Francisco was the final choice.

Every one of your delegates attended all sessions, and while they were not heard on the floor many times because it was unnecessary, they were continuously on the alert, watching for any adverse action and taking care of and protecting the International

Union to see to it that no resolutions would be adopted that would in any way retard our progress or injure the Teamsters.

The convention lasted about eight days and adjourned on Thursday of the second week.

Up to its closing, it was quite interesting, and while there was nothing of a seriously controversial nature on the floor, the business of the convention was important, and the expressions of the convention on public matters, in our judgment, were constructive and educational. They should be helpful to the masses of the toilers of the nation and a guide for our governmental officials.

There was some criticism or talk that there was not much life or fire to the convention and that there was a lack of debate by the heads of the international unions.

To some extent, that statement is justified because international officials, heads of unions, had so many other problems on their minds that they were not anxious to debate questions that did not, in their viewpoint, seriously affect them.

It must be remembered that in the old days of debate and argument, most of those debates were on jurisdictional disputes which were not prevalent in this convention.

In our opinion, it was a business-like convention without a great deal of fire or oratory. Delegates were anxious to get through with their work as soon as possible and return to their homes and take up the many grave problems confronting their organizations.

The delegates from Great Britain were very able men and made splendid addresses to the convention, explaining in detail the conditions surrounding the labor government of England, which undoubtedly at this time is having to deal with the most serious problems that have confronted that country within the last 50 years.

The fraternal delegate from Canada also delivered an educational and helpful address and explained the position of the Canadian trade union movement to such an extent that there is a better understanding of it. There is a difference now between the American Federation of Labor and the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress which

is not yet adjusted and we trust it may be adjusted as time goes on.

We did all in our power to serve our International Union and to protect its interests in every way possible. We must say that some of us who have not been in attendance at many previous conventions were happy to find that the Teamsters' Union held the respect and the confidence and the admiration of the delegates coming from all over the country. This we gleaned from their approach, from their expressions and from their desire to know us and to return to their homes bearing a message of good will from the Teamster delegates.

We cannot fully express in this report our gratefulness to our membership in Chicago represented by the joint council. That body did everything in its power and succeeded in making our visit to Chicago enjoyable and exceptionally welcome.

During the sessions of the convention some of us attended the joint council meeting in Chicago, and it was indeed an education and a tribute to the 50,000 or more members affiliated with that joint council to see the manner in which they conducted their business under the chairmanship of Frank Brown, who is also the president of Local Union No. 710. He was ably assisted by his associate officers in the joint council.

Every organization affiliated with the joint council had its full representation, and the hall in which they were meeting was packed to the doors. Order, unity and business prevailed in that meeting, and their generosity and helpfulness to us while in Chicago, as well as their entertainment and courtesy and their thought for our every need, could not be excelled. We tender to them our grateful appreciation.

We appreciate the confidence reposed in us by our general membership in selecting us to be delegates to this convention because of the helpfulness we received and from the education that can be obtained from attending a convention of this kind.

We have returned to our homes with greater pride in our International Union and with a greater determination to "carry on" if it is humanly possible, with greater vigor, militancy and aggressiveness than before.

We are now passing through a period when the whole labor movement looks to us for helpfulness and with something of gratefulness and pride in their hearts that as time has gone by in recent years the Teamsters' Union has been the outstanding organization within the American Federation of Labor that has fought to protect the federation, to hold it together in its dark hours, and has battled against extreme radicalism, Communism and all the other isms that have attempted to weaken the prestige or to destroy the American labor movement.

We repeat that we were happy to find this expression from men from all parts of the country who come in contact with our people in their own districts. Again we thank our membership for the privilege of being your representatives at the convention recently held in Chicago.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL J. TOBIN
JOHN F. ENGLISH
THOMAS E. FLYNN
FRANK BREWSTER
THOMAS J. FARRELL
ROBERT LESTER
RAY SCHOESSLING

Houses Can Be Built Only by Building Houses

The Wyatt national housing program is bogged down. To meet its goal of houses, at least 110,000 houses must be built in each of the months of October, November and December.

If Mr. Wyatt wonders how these houses can be built, there is only one answer:

Stop *every* bit of construction except housing.

Stop the export of *every* bit of material needed for housing.

These two measures will produce houses.

When all else fails—why not try all-out effort?—*The Progressive Miner*.

They Still Curse Roosevelt

THE hatred of some Republicans for President Roosevelt is so intense that they intend to pursue him into the grave. They are taking a ghoulish delight in advocating a constitutional limit to the time a President may serve.

In some way, this is supposed to be a punishment of Roosevelt—a belated and empty vengeance.

They shake with uncontrolled anger when they recall that Roosevelt beat them not once, not twice, but four times. They are determined nobody shall ever do this to them again.

And so they propose a constitutional limit of two four-year terms for the presidency. In doing so they expose a lack of confidence in the judgment of the people.

If a senator or a congressman can serve five or six terms, why should a President be limited to two? A senator or congressman believes he becomes more valuable as his experience increases.

Why should not a President be equally valuable with added experience?

And why should anyone fear for the national welfare as long as a President must stand for reelection every four years? If he is a bad President, he will not serve two terms. The people will kick him out.

If he is a good President why should the people be denied the privilege of retaining him in office?

The myth of dictatorship was exploded during the Roosevelt regime when his enemies darkly warned that if he was elected a third time there would never be another election in the United States.

Has anybody lost his vote except a few vicious old partisans with hardened arteries who died of frustration while praying for Roosevelt to die?

If the Roosevelt haters would look forward, instead of backward, they could prevent a recurrence of the circumstances that gave us Roosevelt as President four times.

Roosevelt was a product of the fumbling, selfish policies of the Republican party after the last war which brought millions of Americans face to face with starvation.

If there had been no emergency, Roosevelt would have been a two-term President. There would have been no popular demand for his continuation in office. But the Republicans created the third-term emergency just as they created the first-term emergency by their blindness to the welfare of the nation.

The people were afraid to trust them in view of their record.

Now the Republicans have an opportunity to demonstrate whether they learned anything from the crises through which the nation has passed.

Instead of cursing the man who saved us from their mistakes, the Republicans should start developing a man whom the American people can trust with the presidency.

If he is good enough, we might want to keep him for three or four terms, too. The Republicans would feel pretty silly if they produced such a man after they had passed a law which deprived them of his services.

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Cuff Buttons	1.00 a pair
Watch Charms	2.00 apiece



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JOHN F. ENGLISH, General Secretary-Treasurer

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This is the standard union service sign officially approved for all branches of the Teamsters' Union. Order them from the general secretary-treasurer. The signs are of metal, 7 by 11 inches in size. They cost 25 cents each.